

## ***Inspector General's Investigation Leads to State Ethics Commission Fine for Braintree Electric Light Department General Manager***

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The general manager of the Braintree Electric Light Department acknowledged violating the state's conflict of interest law and agreed to pay a \$2,000 fine following an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General.

The State Ethics Commission fined the general manager, Walter R. McGrath, for violating the state's conflict of interest law by failing to disclose friendships with and entertainment by employees of Power Line Models, a vendor doing business with the light department.

The Office referred the case to the Ethics Commission after an extensive investigation of the Braintree Electric Light Department. The investigation found that numerous items of substantial value had been bestowed upon the light department's general manager, engineering manager, district supervisor, and foreman by vendors under contract with the light department. These gifts included golf outings, lunches, as well as major league baseball tickets.

The Inspector General's report, "Contractor Gifts to Braintree Electric Light Department Employees, " was released in October 2002.

McGrath signed a disposition agreement with the State Ethics Commission on June 17, 2004. A copy of the agreement may be obtained at the State Ethics Commission's website at [http://www.mass.gov/ethics/DA\\_McGrath.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/ethics/DA_McGrath.pdf).